

# Language and Politics

*Noam Chomsky , Carlos Otero (Editor)*

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An enormous chronological collection of over fifty interviews conducted with Chomsky from 1968 to present day. Many of the pieces have never appeared in any other collection, some have never appeared in English, and more than one has been suppressed. This expanded edition contains fifty pages of brand new interviews.

The interviews add a personal dimension to the full breadth of Chomsky's impressive written canon—equally covering his analysis in linguistics, philosophy, and politics. This updated, annotated, fully indexed new edition contains an extensive bibliography, as well as an introduction by editor Carlos Otero on the relationship between Chomsky's language and politics.

### Praise for previous edition:

"For those who know [Chomsky] only as media analyst and critic of foreign policy, this wide-ranging book offers glimpses of his studies on language, anarchist theory, and critiques of radical politics."—NACLA

**Noam Chomsky** is a renowned scholar, the founder of the modern science of linguistics, a philosopher, a political and social analyst, a media critic, and author of more than one hundred books. Recipient of numerous prizes and awards, Chomsky ranks with Marx, Shakespeare and the Bible as one of the ten most quoted sources in the -humanities. His previous works include the best selling 9-11, and the critically acclaimed AK Audio Collection.

**Carlos Otero**, who also edited *Radical Priorities* by Noam Chomsky, teaches linguistics at the University of California at Los Angeles.

## Language and Politics Details


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# From Reader Review Language and Politics for online ebook

## Andrew says

This book is a pretty good attempt at merging the two things Noam Chomsky talks about incessantly. The book sticks primarily to the familiar question-answer format, where Chomsky is either with the interviewer face to face, or is responding to questions in writing. The two disappointments I have are that there is a lot of repetition, sometimes in consecutive chapters/interviews. The repetitions made me question whether or not I was rereading pages and interviews, or even if the book had printing mistakes. Alas, the problem lies in the fact that so many interviews that happen at the same time likely cause Chomsky to repeat himself on certain topics. The other issues stems from the first problem. At 784 pages, this book is a pain in the ass to carry around and read because it is so big. I don't mind being that guy on the bus who is reading the anarcho-syndicalist tome on politics and language because I obviously am reading it for all the ladies to check out the size and shape of my parietal bone, but I do mind being that guy who reads books that take so long to read that he forgets what the first few chapters were about. I should just stop reading these perennial tomes and go back to playing video games.

Having said all of this negative stuff, I must say that I thoroughly enjoyed the bits about linguistics. Sometimes Chomsky can get so deep into the specialized knowledge thing that he's basically speaking another language.

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## Shawn says

interesting over-all look into his theories of language and thought and its structure, also, alot of uncomfortable views on American foreign policy and interior propaganda apparatus

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## Mr. says

This collection is an impressive gathering of interviews collected from the early sixties to the present. In it, the Professor gives some of his best long-range insights on a number of topics, such as linguistics, philosophy, science, politics, the Middle East, the media, and education. This volume is not the place to start if you are new to Chomsky's work, but it is an excellent supplement to his famous writings. As to the interviews themselves, they are mostly fascinating, Chomsky proves once again that he may be the most important intellectual of the latter half of the 20th century. My one complaint is that some of the interviews overlap, as he is asked to speak multiple times on a number of topics, he is asked what the connection between his linguistic work and his political work is about twenty times for instance, as the title would suggest. Aside from that, this is an invaluable read.

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## Phillip says

wrapped things up with noam chomsky's LANGUAGE AND POLITICS - i think it a great intro to chomsky, lots of interviews with him from 1968 to the recent present, covering his work in linguistics and moving

more into politics, in particular, US foreign policy from vietnam to iraq and more.

there were a few interviews mid-way through the book where i felt the subject got stuck on repeat, but otherwise this was a most readable and intelligent view of all things politic regarding this country and how it views and relates to other countries. and all the while, language plays in the foreground. glad to have found it.

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### **J.M. Hushour says**

Five stars for the ideas, three for the collection.

Probably best for the Noamaphile completist, this massive collection of interviews will seem like a lot of retread for those who are familiar with Chomsky's thought and political critiques. In fact, there is a lot of redundancy even within the selections themselves, which tends to make it tedious at times. Keep in mind, you're basically reading scores of interviews with people asking Chomsky pretty much the same over and over again...and him giving pretty much the same answer all the time.

I wouldn't recommend it to anyone coming to Chomsky's linguistic or social ideas for the first time, either. You can easily pick up one of his own works and get the same basic stuff.

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### **Renee says**

Every time I read or listen to Chomsky I find myself vacillating between agreement so deep it feels like I've somehow been influenced by its ideas already and a serious skepticism about some of his linguistics-based assumptions as they apply to broadly political questions. He's essential to navigate but impossible to rate on first pass.

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